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News Release

For Immediate Release

Mayor Stephens Approves Task Force Member Selection

Mayor Bob Stephens has approved the <u>Public Involvement Committee's selection of members</u> for the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Task Force. The full slate of members is expected to be formally approved at the Dec. 17 City Council meeting.

"Having reviewed the application forms and resumes of the nominees that I didn't already know personally, I can see that the Public Involvement Committee did its usual excellent job of matching skills and diversity to the needs at hand. I concur with their choices," Stephens said.

Judge Miles Sweeney and the 15 voting members, along with the two alternate members, will begin their work after the holidays. Stephens said he hopes the group can meet early to mid-January for a get-acquainted meeting, and also have a chance to establish some ground rules for how they will function in the future.

"This is a very strong task force and Springfield voters and residents can be assured that the sensitive and controversial topics assigned to this task force will be researched professionally and that it will bring forward quality work for the City Council for consideration in six months or so," he said.

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